



PTO/SB/36 (4-01/2001)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>REQUEST</b> <b>FOR</b> <b>CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)</b> <b>TRANSMITTAL</b>		<b>Application Number</b> <b>09/526,547</b>
<b>Address to:</b> <b>Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>Box RCE</b> <b>Washington, DC 20231</b>		<b>Filing Date</b> <b>March 16, 2000</b>
		<b>First Named Inventor</b> <b>Jose FEDIDA</b>
		<b>Art Unit</b> <b>3731</b>
		<b>Examiner Name</b> <b>Vy Q. Bui</b>
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b> <b>JEL 31040</b>

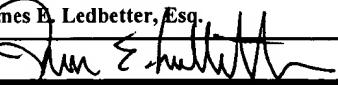
This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8,

1.  Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114
  - a.  Previously submitted
    - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on April 15, 2002  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Enclosed
    - i.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)      iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
2.  Miscellaneous
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i) required)
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3.  Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e) 05/16/2002 HDEMESS1 00000046 09526547
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC-179
    - iii.  Other 740.00 OP
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ 850.00 enclosed
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print / Type)	James E. Ledbetter, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	28,732
Signature			
	Date	May 15, 2002	

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Name (Print / Type)			
Signature		Date	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



03  
#14C  
5-10  
MAY 15 2002  
O.I.P.E. 5017  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Jose FEDIDA Group Art Unit 3738

Appln. No.: 09/526,547 Examiner B. BUI

Filed: March 16, 2000

For: STRUCTURE OF A PROSTHESIS INTENDED TO BE IMPLANTED  
IN A HUMAN OR ANIMAL PASSAGE AND PROSTHESIS WITH  
SUCH A STRUCTURE

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Concurrently with filing of a Request for Continued  
Examination, the Applicant respectfully requests further amendment  
of the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims:

11  
--17. The structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
linking means link together the two adjacent annular units to form  
a plurality of closed sections oriented approximately parallel to  
a longitudinal axis of the prosthesis structure.--

RECEIVED  
MAY 20 2002  
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM